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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Claude Dufresne, <i>et al.</i>			
Serial No.:	To be assigned	Case No.:	MC102P	Art Unit:
Filed:	Herewith			Examiner:
For:	NITRIC OXIDE RELEASING PRODRUGS OF DIARYL-2-(5H)-FURANONES AS CYCLOOXYGENASE-2 INHIBITORS			

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering the U.S. National phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1) (a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION begin on page 2 of this paper.

REMARKS begin on page 3 of this paper.